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# Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks

STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

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HELENA, MONTANA 59620

**The  
Department  
In  
1982**



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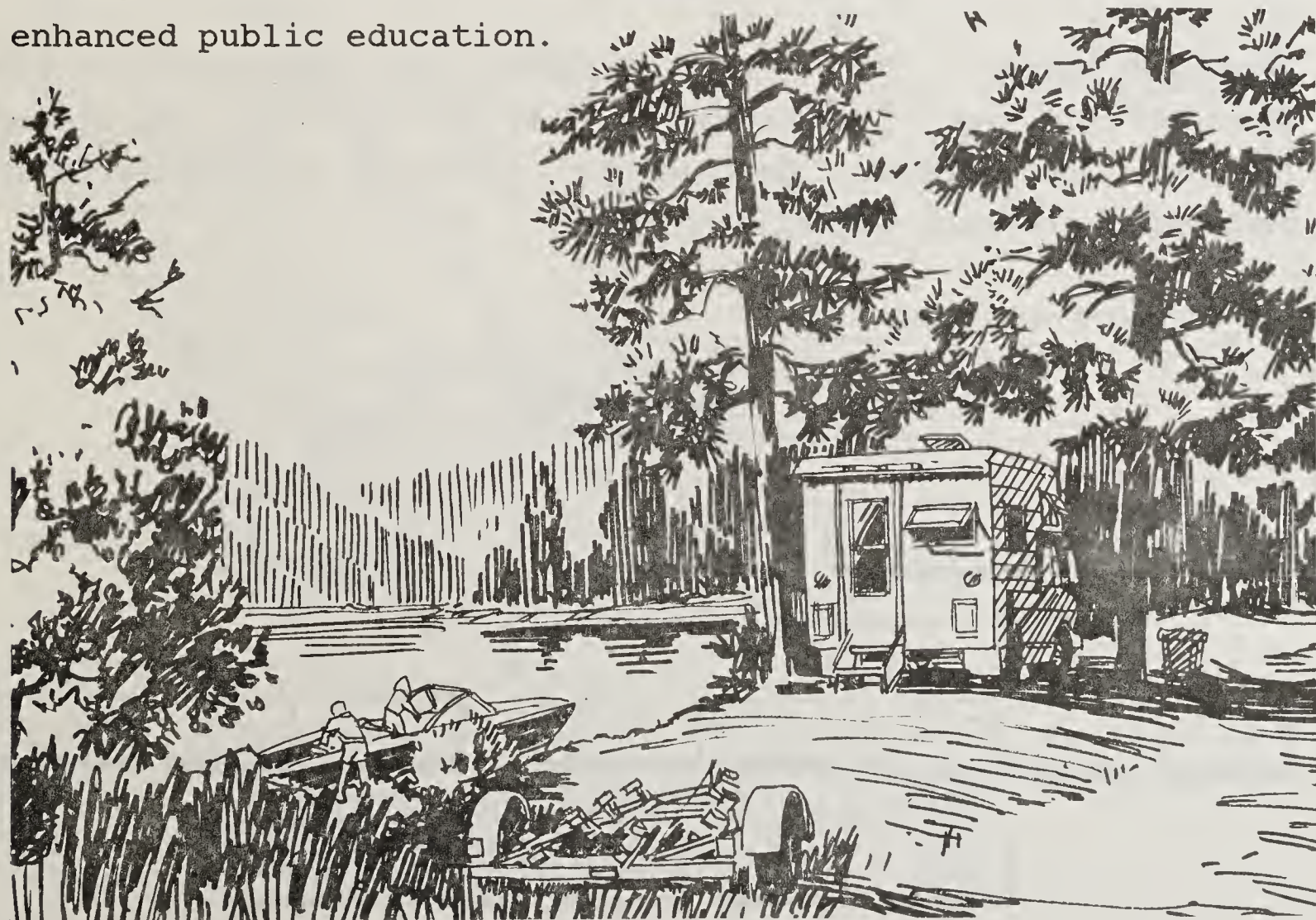


The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks is charged with the responsibility of providing optimum outdoor recreation for Montanans and their guests.

Montanan's have always enjoyed abundant and high quality hunting, fishing and other forms of outdoor recreation. This has been possible partly due to our geography, but it has also required aggressive fish and wildlife management and good stewardship of our basic resources - land and water.

The reality of an expanding human population that cuts across economic, sociological, political and biological processes is cause for our growing concern, and we try to reassure ourselves with reminders of our assets. Another of our greastest concerns is the apparent change in philosophies and policies toward use of wildlife habitats.

As the demands upon land and water become greater, the job of providing optimum outdoor recreational opportunities is compounded. But we are determined to meet this challenge through more refined and innovative management and through enhanced public education.





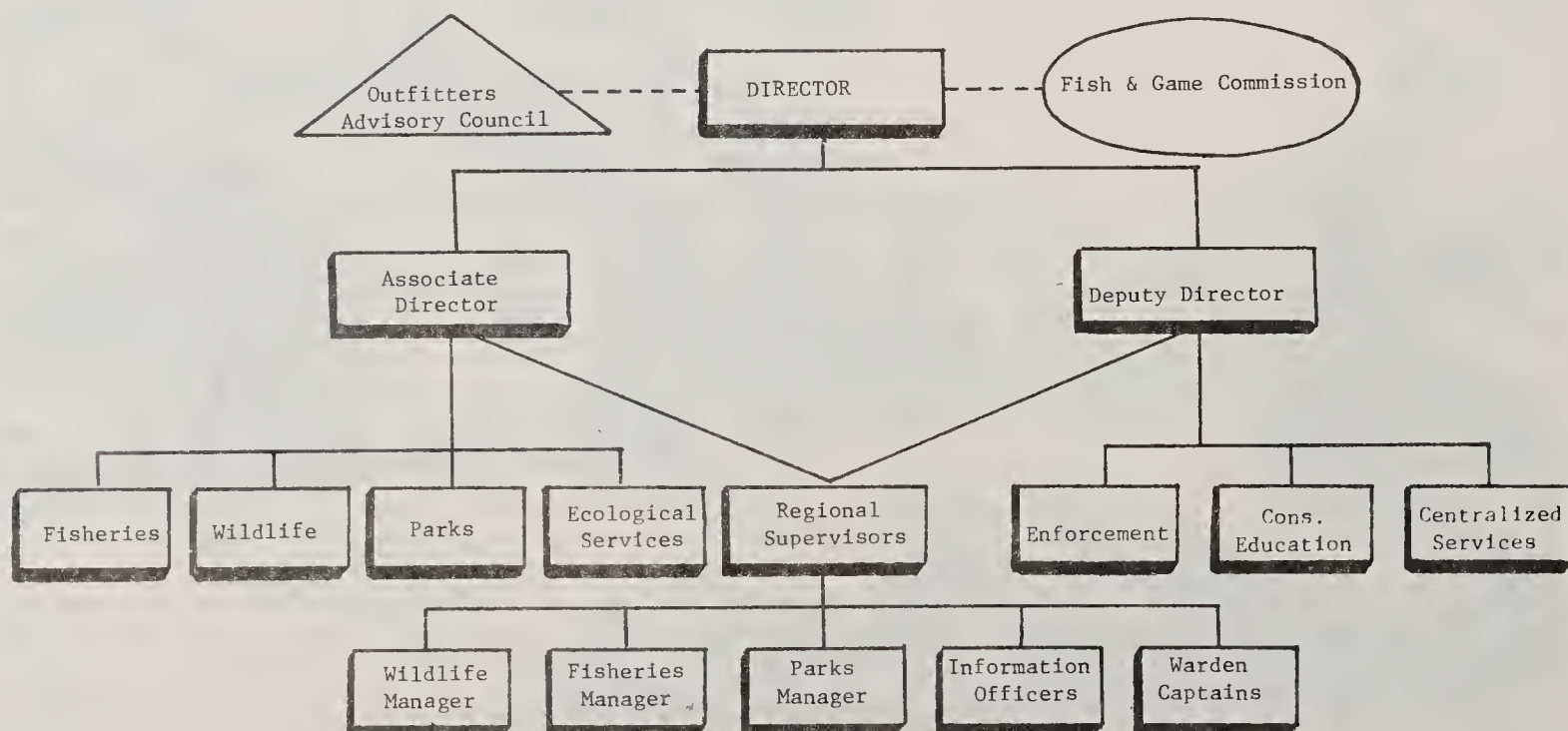
## ORGANIZATION

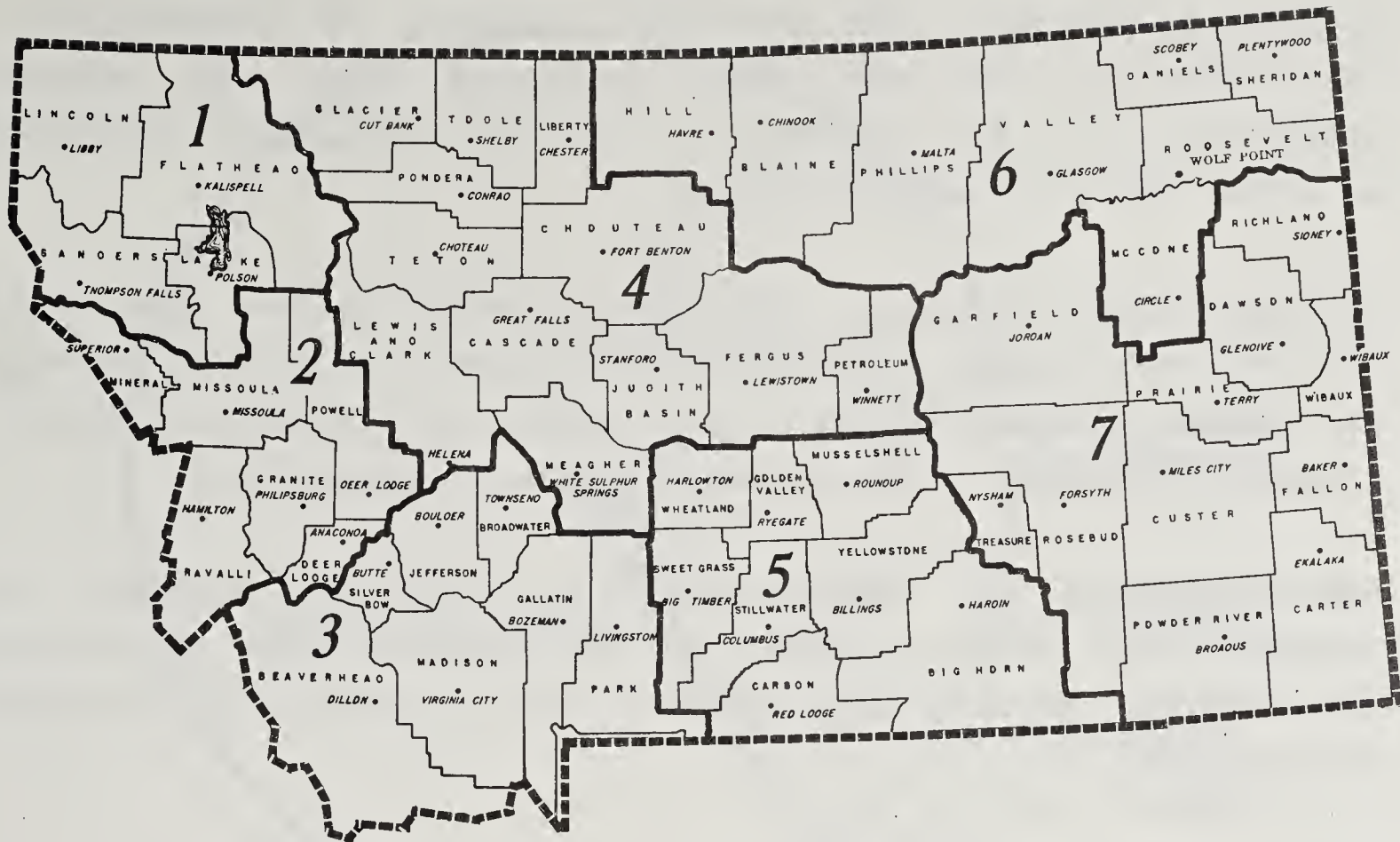
Commission: Montana is divided into five commission districts along county lines. Each district is represented by one Fish and Game Commissioner.

Commissioners are appointed by the governor and must have concurrence of the senate. Three are appointed to serve terms concurrent with the gubernatorial term and until their successors are appointed and qualified. The remaining members are appointed to serve terms ending on the first day of the third January of the succeeding gubernatorial term.

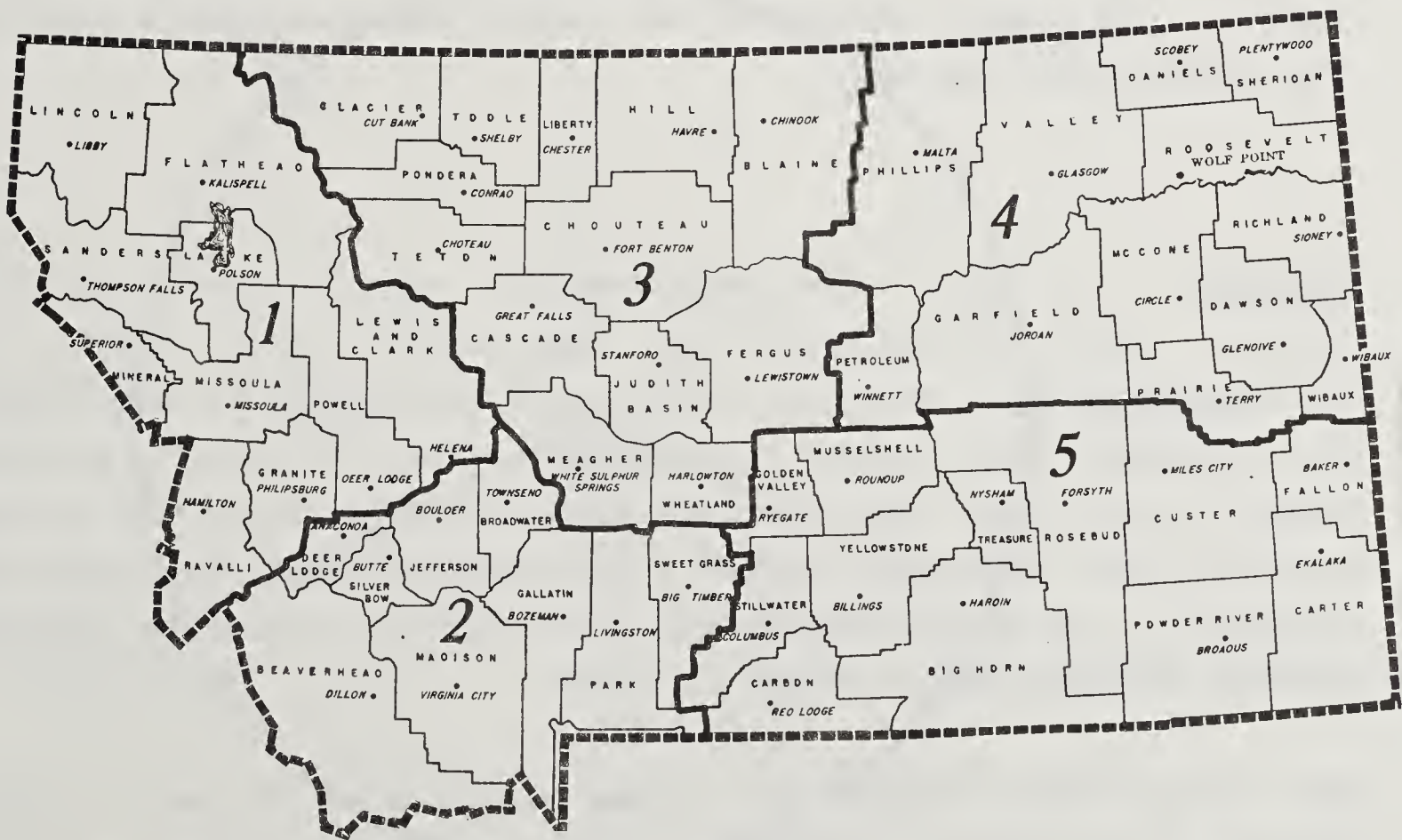
Director: The Fish, Wildlife, and Parks director is also appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate. The director serves a term concurrent with that of the governor. The director is the chief administrative officer of the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. He is responsible for all programs and actions of the department and has direct authority over all activities and all employees of the department.

Deputy Director: The deputy director is responsible to the director and has line authority over the regional supervisors and the enforcement, centralized services and conservation education division administrators.





Fish, Wildlife and Parks Administrative Regions



Fish and Game Commission Districts



Associate Director: The associate director is responsible to the director and has line authority over the regional supervisors and the fisheries, wildlife, parks and ecological services division administrators.

Division Administrator: Division administrators are staff officers who advise the director on matters related to resource management, administration of resource programs and special problems related to the division's area of expertise.

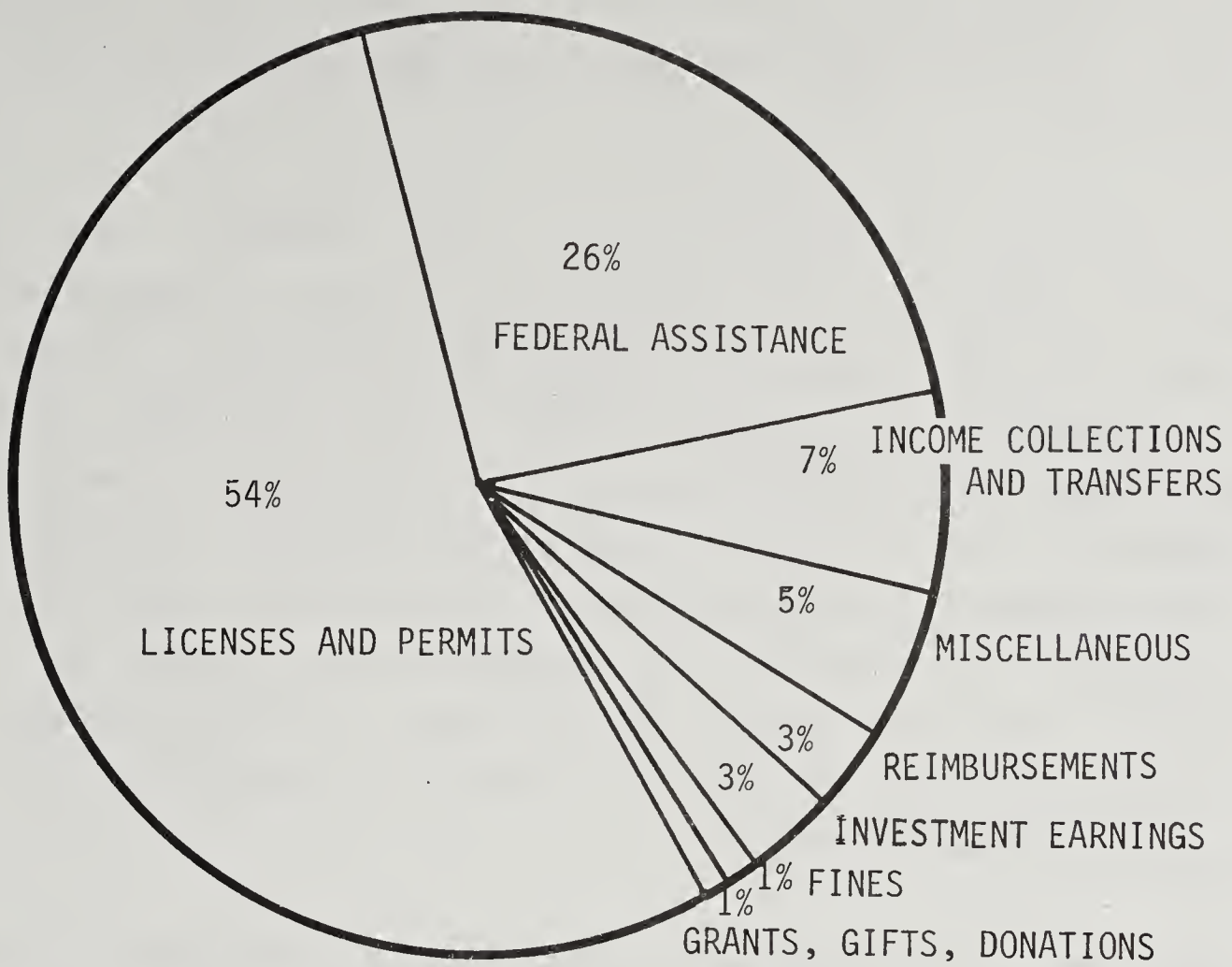
Administrators are responsible for statewide programs and budgets which they recommend to the director after considering all factors, particularly requests and proposals from regional supervisors.

Administrators maintain line authority over division staff personnel as assigned by the director.

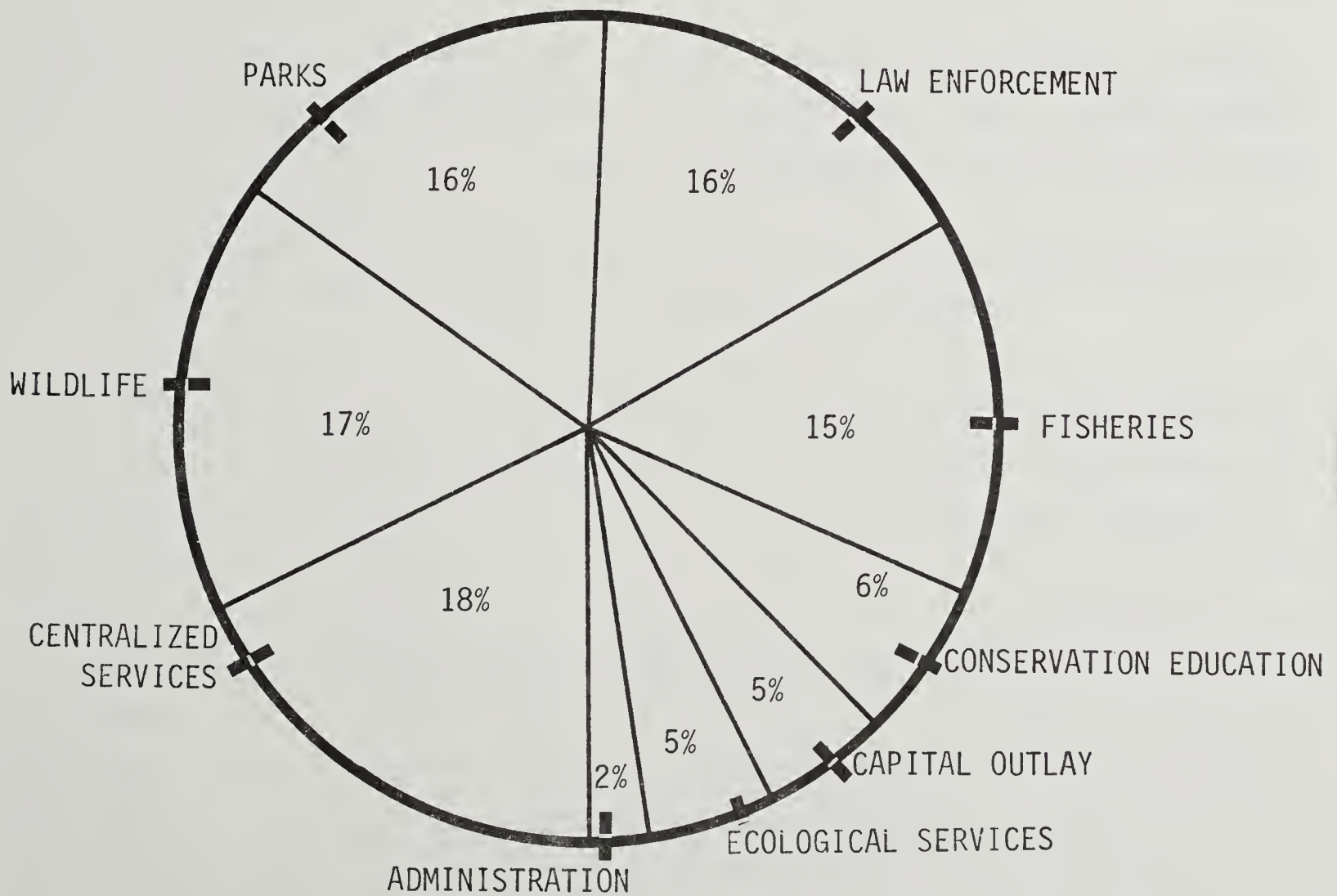
Regional Supervisor: Regional supervisors are line officers who are the director's representatives in each administrative region. As such, they are the chief administrative officers for respective regions.

FUNDING: In 1902, the department's first chief executive wrote, "the protection of game and fish should be self-sustaining. This can only be accomplished by those doing the hunting and fishing paying the cost of sport provided them..." To this day, hunters and fisherman continue to bear most of the financial burden for programs benefiting fish and wildlife. The department's major source of income is from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses.

The second major source of income consists of a tax on sports hunting and fishing equipment. Federal excise taxes on sport firearms and ammunition comprise the Pittman-Robertson fund, and similar taxes on fishing equipment are Dingell-Johnson funds. These funds are made available to the states on a



% Revenues by Source



% Expenditures by Division

matching basis, 75% federal and 25% state. The size of the allotment depends upon the size of the state and the total license sales.

Other sources of funding are from federal and private contracts, cabin site and concession rentals, campground fees, entrance fees at Lewis and Clark State Caverns, fines and a small appropriation from the state general fund for parks use. A state tax of nine-tenths of one percent on gasoline is earmarked for use on areas used by motorboats, and five tenths of one percent for snowmobile recreation facilities and enforcement. It also receives benefit of interest on a trust account of one and two-thirds percent of the coal severance tax. The interest is used to acquire, develop and maintain state park system sites.

The department has obtained within the last few years financial aid and grants from federal agencies and private sources, as well as other state sources of small revenues.

A major source of revenue until 1982 was the Land and Water Conservation Fund. During 1982 all of the appropriations from this fund were for federal projects.

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Revenue Received FYE June 30, 1982

Licenses and Permits	\$11,645,161
Service Fees - Misc.	210,383
Investment Earnings	552,367
Fines	235,889
Reimbursements	797,242
Sale of Documents, Merchandise & Property (Misc.)	268,807
Miscellaneous	444,970
Rentals, Leases and Royalties	61,476
Grants, Gifts, Bequests and Donations	202,065
Income Collections and Transfers	1,457,475
Federal Assistance	<u>5,649,403</u>
Total	\$21,525,238



Expenditure by Division FYE June 30, 1982

	Personal Services	Operating Expense	Equipment	Capital Outlay	Grants & Transfers	Total
Centralized Services	\$1,215,751	\$1,824,376	\$ 375,113		\$ 160,000	\$3,575,240
Ecological Services	622,626	283,069	24,282		4,132	934,109
Fisheries	2,024,433	747,380	145,237		10,000	2,927,050
Law Enforcement	2,304,817	808,263	92,450			3,205,530
Wildlife	1,920,103	1,278,123	88,863		64,642	3,351,731
Recreation and Parks	1,326,932	711,838	54,277		1,031,612	3,124,659
Capital Outlay				864,346	21,715	886,061
Conservation Education	537,001	422,032	29,355			988,388
Administration	249,080	104,621			105,000	458,701
Total	\$10,200,743	\$6,179,702	\$809,577	\$864,346	\$1,397,101	\$19,451,469

SUMMARY OF LICENSE SALES  
AND LICENSE FEES - 1970 - 1981

Resident Licenses

	1970	Cost	1971	Cost	1972	Cost	1973	Cost	1974	Cost	1975	Cost
Archery	*4,647	\$3.00	5,370	\$3.00	*6,528	\$3.00	*10,342	\$3.00	*9,875	\$3.00	9,240	\$5.00
Antelope	21,439	\$3.00	23,151	\$3.00	26,604	\$3.00	27,813	\$3.00	24,494	\$3.00	23,189	\$3.00
Bear - Black	**	N/A	2,547	\$5.00	4,410	\$5.00	6,268	\$5.00	6,820	\$5.00	6,805	\$5.00
Bear - Grizzly	1,769	\$1.00	746	\$5.00	687	\$5.00	586	\$5.00	665	\$5.00	716	\$5.00
Grizzly Trophy	*13	\$25.00	22	\$25.00	*14	\$25.00	15	\$25.00	*18	\$25.00	*13	\$25.00
Bird Adult	53,941	\$2.00	54,173	\$2.00	57,662	\$2.00	59,965	\$2.00	56,332	\$2.00	55,164	\$2.00
Bird Youth	4,687	\$1.00	4,748	\$1.00	4,971	\$1.00	5,081	\$1.00	4,796	\$1.00	4,366	\$1.00
Conservation	210,096	\$ .25	217,728	\$ .25	225,907	\$ .25	235,699	\$ .25	232,616	\$ .25	230,541	\$ .25
Deer A - Adult	120,236	\$3.00	123,051	\$3.00	126,941	\$3.00	140,375	\$3.00	135,995	\$3.00	126,226	\$3.00
Deer A - Youth	11,071	\$1.50	11,388	\$1.50	11,753	\$1.50	12,484	\$1.50	12,372	\$1.50	11,274	\$1.50
Deer B - Adult	31,052	\$5.00	29,010	\$5.00	35,101	\$5.00	48,871	\$5.00	41,103	\$5.00	23,366	\$5.00
Deer B - Youth	2,617	\$2.50	2,486	\$2.50	2,802	\$2.50	3,904	\$2.50	3,309	\$2.50	1,682	\$2.50
Elk - Adult	72,538	\$3.00	72,788	\$3.00	75,279	\$3.00	82,729	\$3.00	84,475	\$3.00	79,675	\$3.00
Elk - Youth	4,678	\$1.50	4,573	\$1.50	4,814	\$1.50	5,345	\$1.50	5,668	\$1.50	5,323	\$1.50
Fishing	142,079	\$3.00	148,566	\$3.00	155,705	\$3.00	160,510	\$3.00	161,407	\$3.00	158,368	\$5.00
Goat	835	\$15.00	696	\$15.00	616	\$15.00	588	\$15.00	570	\$15.00	286	\$15.00
Lion		N/A		N/A		N/A	241	\$5.00	258	\$5.00	286	\$5.00
Moose	676	\$25.00	676	\$25.00	641	\$25.00	756	\$25.00	762	\$25.00	752	\$25.00
Pioneer (Fish, Game Bird)	15,347	\$ .15	16,808	\$ .15	17,588	\$ .15	21,677	\$ .15	27,151	\$ .15	23,652	\$ .15
Sheep	342	\$25.00	382	\$25.00	427	\$25.00	589	\$25.00	607	\$25.00	671	\$25.00
Sportmans	611	\$20.25	924	\$20.25	1,403	\$20.25	1,697	\$20.25	2,188	\$20.25	2,539	\$20.25
Turkey	*1,262	\$2.00	*1,679	\$2.00	*2,238	\$2.00	*1,900	\$2.00	*2,626	\$2.00	*3,790	\$2.00

	1976	Cost	1977	Cost	1978	Cost	1979	Cost	1980	Cost	1981	Cost
Archery	*7,809	\$6.00	*9,239	\$6.00	*10,424	\$6.00	*11,383	\$6.00	14,001	\$6.00	15,703	\$6.00
Antelope	25,087	\$5.00	25,059	\$5.00	20,344	\$5.00	15,855	\$5.00	17,146	\$5.00	21,312	\$5.00
Bear - Black	7,251	\$6.00	7,866	\$6.00	8,305	\$6.00	9,863	\$6.00	10,458	\$6.00	9,775	\$8.00
Bear - Grizzly	389	\$25.00	411	\$25.00	497	\$25.00	472	\$25.00	537	\$25.00	675	\$25.00
Grizzly Trophy	*11	\$25.00	*5	\$25.00	*7	\$25.00	*11	\$25.00	*12	\$25.00	11	\$25.00
Bird Adult	55,908	\$4.00	61,358	\$4.00	60,030	\$4.00	61,643	\$4.00	59,769	\$4.00	47,326	\$4.00
Bird Youth	4,458	\$1.00	4,353	\$1.00	4,230	\$1.00	4,082	\$1.00	3,920	\$2.00	3,165	\$2.00
Conservation	252,248	\$1.00	256,721	\$1.00	257,407	\$1.00	284,733	\$1.00	264,530	\$1.00	269,072	\$2.00
Deer A - Adult	102,327	\$6.00	109,402	\$7.00	109,292	\$7.00	122,220	\$7.00	132,593	\$7.00	137,018	\$7.00
Deer A - Youth	9,659	\$2.00	9,308	\$2.00	8,498	\$2.00	8,656	\$2.00	8,886	\$2.00	9,091	\$2.00
Deer B - Adult		\$12.00	82	\$12.00	471	\$12.00	1,197	\$12.00	6,305	\$5.00	11,691	\$5.00
Deer B - Youth		Disc.										
Elk - Adult	68,126	\$8.00	74,466	\$8.00	75,557	\$8.00	81,392	\$8.00	84,753	\$8.00	86,515	\$8.00
Elk - Youth	5,126	\$2.00	4,967	\$2.00	4,913	\$2.00	4,908	\$2.00	5,086	\$2.00	5,477	\$2.00
Fishing	167,885	\$5.00	168,307	\$5.00	170,676	\$5.00	173,965	\$5.00	177,815	\$5.00	172,414	\$7.00
Goat	507	\$15.00	440	\$15.00	430	\$15.00	401	\$15.00	359	\$15.00	349	\$15.00
Lion	517	\$5.00	574	\$5.00	643	\$5.00	614	\$5.00	787	\$5.00	893	\$5.00
Moose	698	\$25.00	584	\$25.00	576	\$25.00	563	\$25.00	532	\$25.00	522	\$25.00
Pioneer (Fish, Game Bird)		Disc.										
Sheep	661	\$25.00	547	\$25.00	875	\$25.00	809	\$25.00	759	\$25.00	825	\$25.00
Sportmans	2,127	\$35.00	2,106	\$35.00	2,691	\$35.00	2,363	\$35.00	3,457	\$35.00	5,488	\$35.00
Turkey	*3,114	\$2.00	*3,224	\$2.00	*3,350	\$2.00	*4,315	\$2.00	*4,734	\$2.00	5,341	\$2.00

\* Both Resident and Nonresident License Included.



# Nonresident Licenses

	1970	Cost	1971	Cost	1972	Cost	1973	Cost	1974	Cost	1975	Cost
Antelope (with combination)												
Antelope	1,374	\$10.00	1,826	\$10.00	2,521	\$10.00	1,493	\$10.00	4,179	\$10.00	5,136	\$10.00
Antelope	3,291	\$35.00	3,677	\$35.00	3,146	\$35.00	3,111	\$35.00	1909	\$35.00	1805	\$35.00
Archery	*4,647	\$3.00	*5,370	\$3.00	*6,528	\$3.00	*10,342	\$3.00	*9,875	\$3.00	*9,240	\$3.00
Bear - Black - Season	60	\$20.00	337	\$35.00	531	\$35.00	708	\$35.00	899	\$35.00	1,255	\$35.00
Bear - Black - Spring									67	\$35.00	181	\$35.00
Bear - Grizzly	211	\$25.00	222	\$35.00	261	\$35.00	224	\$35.00	253	\$35.00	270	\$35.00
Bear - Grizzly Trophy	*13	\$25.00	*22	\$25.00	*14	\$25.00	*15	\$25.00	*18	\$25.00	*13	\$25.00
Bird	1,046	\$25.00	1,191	\$25.00	1,432	\$25.00	1,352	\$25.00	1,339	\$25.00	1,451	\$25.00
Combination (Elk-Deer-etc.)	9,501	\$151.00	11,973	\$151.00	13,970	\$151.00	19,230	\$151.00	20,560	\$151.00	25,584	\$151.00
Combination-Bird-Fish	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A	
Conservation	80,759	\$1.00	87,744	\$1.00	99,459	\$1.00	99,128	\$1.00	89,646	\$1.00	87,526	\$1.00
Deer Only	10,329	\$35.00	13,741	\$35.00	13,550	\$35.00	10,745	\$35.00	7,376	\$35.00	2,010	\$35.00
Fishing: Season												
Fishing - 1 Day	6,968	\$15.00	7,457	\$15.00	7,925	\$15.00	8,640	\$15.00	9,636	\$15.00	10,286	\$20.00
Fishing - 6 day	130,024	\$1.00	145,251	\$1.00	176,697	\$1.00	169,876	\$1.00	144,164	\$2.00	135,253	\$2.00
Fishing - 6 day	24,007	\$5.00	25,207	\$5.00	26,961	\$5.00	26,424	\$5.00	16,275	\$10.00	17,451	\$10.00
Goat	247	\$30.00	217	\$30.00	48	\$30.00	47	\$30.00	50	\$30.00	44	\$30.00
Lion	N/A		N/A		N/A		241	\$25.00	93	\$25.00	120	\$25.00
Moose	32	\$50.00	25	\$50.00	32	\$50.00	42	\$50.00	39	\$50.00	39	\$50.00
Sheep	172	\$50.00	174	\$50.00	172	\$50.00	227	\$50.00	261	\$50.00	325	\$50.00
Turkey	*1,262	\$2.00	*1,679	\$2.00	*2,238	\$2.00	*1,900	\$2.00	*2,626	\$2.00	*3,790	\$2.00
Antelope (with combination)												
Antelope	2,080	Disc.	2,195	\$50.00	1,975	\$50.00	963	\$50.00	1,233	\$100.00	1,387	\$100.00
Archery	*7,809	\$6.00	*9,239	\$6.00	*10,424	\$6.00	*11,383	\$6.00	*14,001	\$6.00	15,703	\$6.00
Bear - Black - Season	58	\$50.00	45	\$50.00	81	\$50.00	40	\$50.00	634	\$100.00	622	\$100.00
Bear - Black - Spring	287	\$50.00	412	\$50.00	613	\$50.00	1,064	\$50.00		Disc.		
Bear - Grizzly	124	\$125.00	102	\$125.00	124	\$125.00	112	\$125.00	123	\$150.00	123	\$125.00
Bear - Grizzly Trophy	*11	\$25.00	*5	\$25.00	*7	\$25.00	*11	\$25.00	*12	\$25.00	11	\$25.00
Bird	1,714	\$30.00	2,240	\$30.00	2,157	\$30.00	2,526	\$30.00	2,660	\$30.00	2,573	\$30.00
Combination (Elk-Deer-etc.)	12,689	\$225.00	13,767	\$225.00	16,553	\$225.00	17,000	\$225.00	17,000	\$225.00	17,000	\$225.00
Combination-Bird-Fish	1,718	\$50.00	960	\$50.00	994	\$50.00	951	\$50.00		Disc.		
Conservation	99,778	\$1.00	105,146	\$1.00	107,360	\$1.00	101,484	\$1.00	106,961	\$1.00	116,145	\$2.00
Deer Only	1,011	\$50.00	0	\$50.00	0	\$50.00	314	\$50.00	651	\$50.00	917	A - \$100.00 B - \$50.00
Fishing: Season												
Fishing - 1 Day	11,865	\$20.00	13,250	\$20.00	14,100	\$20.00	14,695	\$20.00	14,002	\$20.00	17,483	\$20.00
Fishing - 6 day	150,393	\$2.00	154,576	\$2.00	153,325	\$2.00	133,922	\$2.00	143,503	\$2.00	156,248	\$2.00
Fishing - 6 day	19,721	\$10.00	21,549	\$10.00	22,838	\$10.00	24,269	\$10.00	23,859	\$10.00	26,182	\$10.00
Goat	39	\$75.00	27	\$75.00	26	\$75.00	22	\$75.00	15	\$150.00	15	\$150.00
Lion	70	\$25.00	102	\$25.00	123	\$25.00	111	\$25.00	61	\$100.00	69	\$100.00
Moose	19	\$125.00	18	\$125.00	12	\$125.00	12	\$125.00	6	\$150.00	10	\$150.00
Sheep	313	\$125.00	176	\$125.00	339	\$125.00	288	\$125.00	218	\$150.00	214	\$150.00
Turkey	*3,114	\$2.00	*3,224	\$2.00	*3,350	\$2.00	*4,315	\$2.00	*4,734	\$2.00	5,341	\$2.00

\* Both Resident and Nonresident License Included.

### Conservation Education

The Conservation Education Division fulfills the public relations function for the department. Primary areas of responsibility include public information, audio visual materials, publications, news releases, youth education, duplicating, mail services, Helena office reception services, license sales and information.

This division publishes the department magazine Montana Outdoors, maintains a film lending library, produces 16 mm color films and television spots and distributes prepared radio tapes.

Montana Outdoors, the department's bi-monthly magazine, maintained a paid subscription of about 34,000. In addition, 2,700 copies of each issue were distributed through other means, such as newsstands. In 1982 the magazine produced the first, of what will be an annual, photographic issue. This issue won two awards from the International Association for





Conservation Information, a first place in color photography, and second place in a special efforts category.

The film production unit completed a 28-minute department documentary entitled "All for the Rivers." This production has already won two awards. The CINE Golden Eagle award was received from the Council on International Nontheatrical Events and a silver award was received from the International Film and TV Festival in New York. Work was initiated on our next documentary that will deal with department lands.

Through our film catalog we estimate that the 106 different film titles that we maintain in our film library were booked in excess of 1,600 times. We estimated that approximately 60,000 people viewed films from our library.

Through our youth education program 160 television shows, 21 radio programs and 13 service programs in addition to programs in 87 schools and five teacher workshops were given. Work continued on Project WILD which is an interdisciplinary effort aimed at environmental education for youth. Project WILD is being coordinated with the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

Publications continued to be a big part of the division effort. A float guide to the Yellowstone River, entitled "Treasure Of Gold" was produced. In addition several informational pamphlets together with hunting and fishing regulations and maps were produced.

The department's activities continued to generate interest and news. Over 150 news releases were released from the Helena office in addition to those which were generated at the regional level.

A weekly feature item entitled "Montana Outdoors" for newspaper columns was produced. Monthly radio public service announcements were provided to all radio stations in the state and TV public service announcements were aired by 12 stations throughout Montana.

Ecological Services Division

The Ecological Services Division concentrates on habitat protection issues in areas of accelerated development activity. All of its responsibilities are a reflection of concern for Montana fish and wildlife written in the state's statutes.

Specific obligations established by law include: pursuing instream flows through water reservations under the Montana Water Use Act, complying with the water adjudication process (SB 76), reporting on development impacts as specified under the state's facility siting authority, administering the Stream Protection Act, and others.

As the department's chief liaison with other agencies, the division coordinates the department's water quality work with the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences and its water allocation projects with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. Efforts to represent fish and wildlife needs in areas of coal and oil development are



coordinated with the Department of State Lands and federal agencies.

The division has a number of cooperative projects with federal agencies and private industry. These efforts include working with the oil companies to preserve critical habitat along the Rocky Mountain Front, negotiating with coal companies to assure wildlife protection in regions of developing strip mines, and implementing innovative planning with the US Forest Service.

The division is also responsible for the department's compliance with the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA), as well as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). In the case of MEPA, Ecological Services assures both procedural and substantive adherence to the law. In the case of NEPA, review is monitored through the department and coordinated with other state agencies.

Filing for water, as instructed by SB 76, was a demanding highlight of the past year. When the deadline came, we filed a total of 473 claims for fish, wildlife and recreational purposes. Of the total, 106 filings were related to instream claims on Montana's blue ribbon streams. The filing were seasonally and geographically adjusted to ensure the claims conformed to the law and the site-specific seasonal needs of fish and wildlife.

Other claims included 43 for hatcheries and spawn-taking stations, 99 for parks (wells and irrigation), 153 on wildlife management areas (primarily irrigation), 70 on ponds, lakes and reservoirs, and 2 claims on rivers where public groups asked us to represent the public interest by securing instream rights.

As complicated as the the filings were, the real test will come when we represent fish and wildlife before the adjudication courts.

Another major highlight during the year was the progress of the wildlife program along the Rocky Mountain Front. In response

to growing resource extraction pressures, emphasis was placed on studying the area's remarkable wildlife potential. Studies are active on deer, elk, sheep, mountain goats, grizzly bears and raptors. This major effort has involved two department divisions, three federal agencies, private conservation groups and oil and gas industry representation. The primary objective is to ensure compatibility between resource development and wildlife preservation.

Perhaps the project with the greatest long-term potential for fish and wildlife, the Elkhorn Mountains planning effort, moved forward during the year. This area is a national prototype for managing forest resources to the ultimate benefit of wildlife. The area was once a hotly contested wilderness candidate area. The only thing the opposing groups agreed upon was that wildlife is the key, and should prosper in the Elkhorns. This project strives to bring to reality the idea that careful resource management can bring multiple public benefits without compromising the quality of wild land that produces abundant wildlife. Working together a receptive Helena National Forest planning staff, and Fish, Wildlife and Parks biologists now have unprecedented opportunities to help secure wildlife's future. This is the only project of its kind in the nation; it has exciting potential.



Fisheries Division

The fisheries division is responsible for management of Montana's aquatic resources. Its specific goals are to maintain optimum fish populations in Montana waters and provide improved sport fishing opportunities where feasible. Activities to meet these goals include maintenance of natural wild fish habitat, an efficient fish cultural program consistent with the needs of the waters, continued surveys and investigations to determine these needs, regulations to provide the maximum amount of sport fishing compatible with the stocks of fish produced each year, and promotion of commercial harvest of rough fish where this is possible without damage to sport fishing.

Recommendations for improving fish and wildlife conditions in connection with hydropower projects were submitted to the Pacific Northwest Power Planning Council in November, 1982. The council has tentatively adopted our recommendations with little change. From testimony presented at the final hearings, which are presently being conducted, we expect the final approval of the majority of our recommendations. These include: flow releases from Hungry Horse Dam to improve kokanee spawning success in the Flathead River, construction of a spawning channel near Hungry Horse Dam to improve spawning for cutthroat trout from Flathead Lake, purchase of 10,000

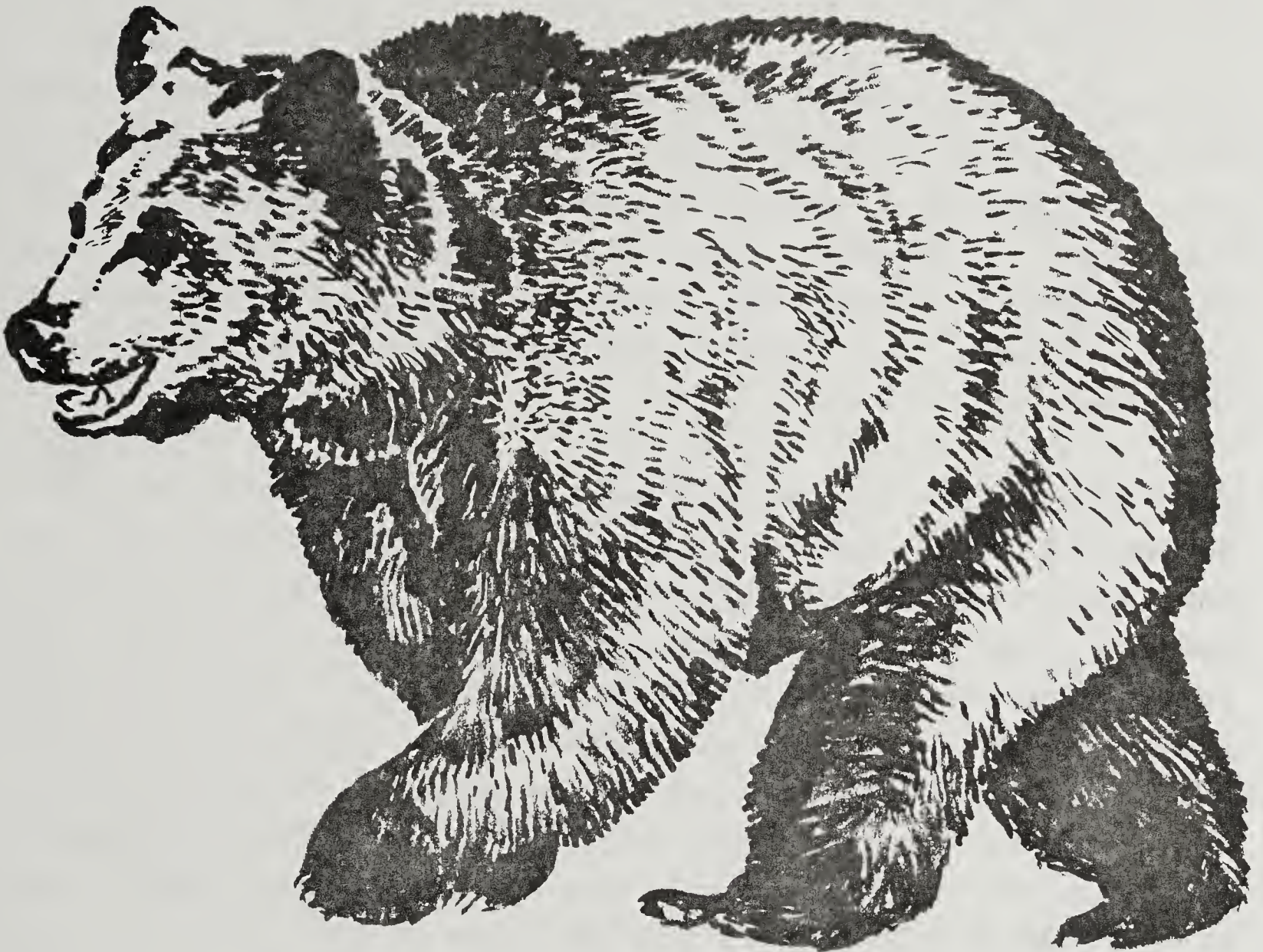
acre-feet of water from Painted Rocks Reservoir to be used for improved summer flows in the Bitterroot River, and a study in the Swan drainage to determine the effect of proposed microhydro development on fish and wildlife.

The council's adoption and implementation of this fish and wildlife plan will result in not only the correction of or mitigation for past damages but also a greatly expanded research effort on methods to prevent and/or mitigate damage from future hydro projects. Costs will be not borne by sportsmen alone through their license fees, but by all hydropower users in the Pacific Northwest.

On August 20, 1981, as the result of a U.S. Supreme Court decision, the Bighorn River within the Crow Indian Reservation was reopened to public fishing. This is the first time since 1975 nontribal members had been allowed to fish. Because of the river's notoriety and reputation for large brown and rainbow trout, the department has a special obligation to maintain the trophy trout fishery in the face of heavy fishing pressure, unrestricted harvest by tribal members, and threats of water diversion, draw-downs, and chemical spills. During the year three fish population censuses were made and a creel census inaugurated to evaluate the special fishing regulations that have been established on this river.

Montana's needs for cool-water and warm-water fishes have historically been met by the Fish and Wildlife Service, largely through the National Fish Hatchery at Miles City. In addition this hatchery has partly filled eastern Montana's need for trout. Discontinuance of the Miles City Hatchery by the Fish and Wildlife Service is a major blow to the sports fishermen in eastern Montana and places a heavy responsibility on the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. The resulting gap in fish production must be filled. However, the costs are so high (1½ million to 3 million dollars for construction and \$105,000 to \$175,000 for annual operations) that the department cannot assume them without authorization from the legislature to increase fishing license fees.



WILDLIFE DIVISION

The management of the wildlife resources of Montana require extensive information about wildlife and their habitats as well as the ability to analyze and utilize the information. The goal of the Wildlife Division is to protect, enhance and regulate the wise use of the wildlife resource for public benefit now and in the future. It is, therefore, the responsibility of the Wildlife Division to collect and analyze necessary information and to recommend and carry out a sound wildlife and wildlife habitat management program.



Information that is gathered also provides the biological basis for game and fur season recommendations to the commission each year. Cooperation in programs affecting wildlife in the state is maintained with federal and state agencies, organizations, landowners and sportsmen. The division also operates and maintains the department wildlife management areas totaling 274,681 acres. Of these 183,777 acres are deeded and 105,979 acres are leased.

During the past several years the various wildlife species have been assigned a priority rank. As might be expected deer, elk and antelope were ranked as the species needing the most attention. Harvest goals, population levels, and identification of problems associated with the major herds of these animals in each administrative region have been described.

The "allowable rate of harvest" for these herds is being determined. This harvest rate is to be coordinated with the population's highs and lows. Simply stated, liberal hunting seasons need to occur when these herds are increasing and restrictive seasons when they are decreasing. "Boom or bust" big game populations are not more unusual than "boom or bust" grain crops. The trick is to determine increases, peaks, decreases and valleys before they occur. Considerable progress has been made by the division for some species in determining the factors causing and indicating these events.

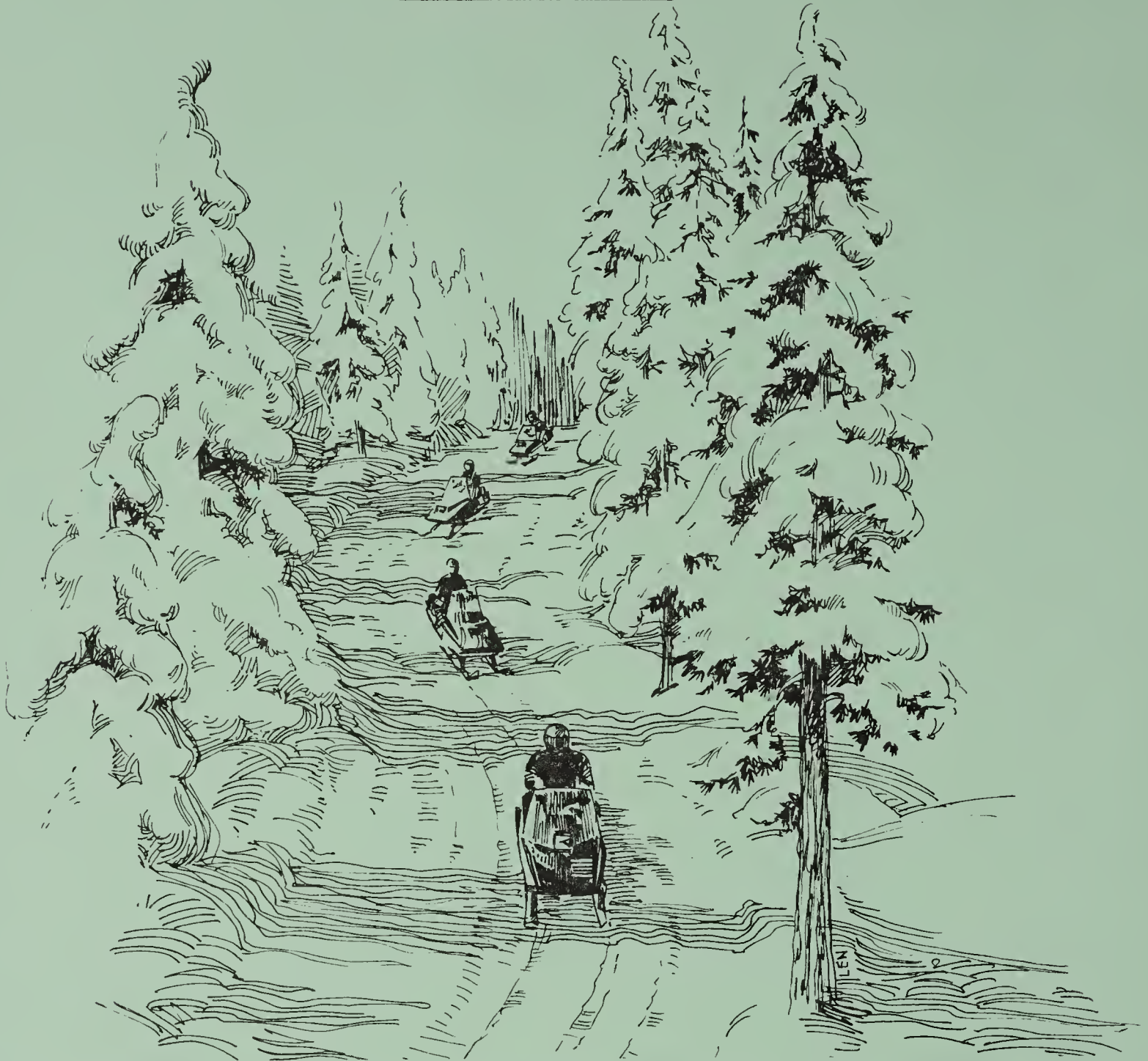


## MONTANA BIG GAME HARVEST, 1966-1981

		ANTELOPE	BLACK BEAR	DEER	ELK	GOAT		MOOSE	SHEEP	
						LIMITED	UNLIMITED		LIMITED	UNLIMITED
1966	No. Hunters	19,556	9,760	106,180	55,113					
	Harvest	13,865	2,000	98,100	13,400					
	Percent Success	71	21	92	23	459	836	666	74	281
						225	250	510	44	32
1967	No. Hunters	18,052	10,571	115,185	71,883	49	30	74	59	11
	Harvest	12,599	2,130	88,640	14,500					
	Percent Success	70	20	77	21	589	256	616	78	145
						294	90	433	56	12
1968	No. Hunters	16,150	8,290	125,711	7,962	50	35	70	73	8
	Harvest	11,500	1,700	99,250	16,700					
	Percent Success	71	24	79	21	598	200	643	75	172
						263	29	457	55	13
1969	No. Hunters	19,871	8,787	128,177	73,848	44	14	71	74	7
	Harvest	14,543	1,700	102,800	12,100					
	Percent Success	73	20	80	16	537	213	645	77	279
						267	66	457	50	17
1970	No. Hunters	23,697	7,204	136,903	77,819	49	31	71	65	7
	Harvest	18,023	1,079	110,988	13,988					
	Percent Success	76	15	80	18	573	223	670	59	447
						303	51	518	43	31
1971	No. Hunters	24,802	5,105	141,243	72,337	52	23	86	73	7
	Harvest	18,403	1,185	116,716	11,785					
	Percent Success	74	23	83	16	546	0	651	72	574
						234	0	427	50	54
1972	No. Hunters	27,762	3,382	152,545	75,951	43	0	66	70	9
	Harvest	19,710	928	112,996	10,867					
	Percent Success	71	27	74	15	556	0	766	76	754
						280	0	597	57	35
1973	No. Hunters	28,062	5,019	167,359	87,746	50	0	78	75	5
	Harvest	19,303	1,347	137,441	17,498					
	Percent Success	69	27	82	20	571	0	780	98	776
						306	0	532	80	54
1974	No. Hunters	27,163	5,705	154,110	89,369	54	0	68	82	7
	Harvest	18,810	1,527	103,656	10,930					
	Percent Success	69	27	67	12	508	0	763	121	631
						237	0	498	89	10
1975	No. Hunters	25,022	6,201	148,109	91,956	47	0	65	74	2
	Harvest	17,298	1,252	77,496	15,750					
	Percent Success	69	20	52	17	500	0	698	124	534
						302	0	376	100	20
1976	No. Hunters	23,273	10,187	112,783	74,190	60	0	54	81	4
	Harvest	16,292	1,637	43,291	7,860					
	Percent Success	70	16	38	11	410	0	587	90	438
						230	0	401	81	24
1977	No. Hunters	24,214	10,187	120,798	79,628	56	0	68	90	5
	Harvest	18,528	1,637	54,143	13,342					
	Percent Success	77	16	45	17					
1978	No. Hunters	18,393	5,262	125,054	86,636	409	0	569	133	510
	Harvest	13,471	909	53,933	12,017	238	0	406	113	23
	Percent Success	73	17	43	14	58	0	71	85	4
1979	No. Hunters	14,170	10,666	139,895	89,367	392	0	568	121	651
	Harvest	10,039	795	64,134	11,692	234	0	421	109	34
	Percent Success	71	7	46	13	60	0	74	91	5
1980	No. Hunters	16,104	18,135	151,918	89,822	339	-	525	181	303
	Harvest	12,016	1,870	85,164	14,841	230	-	389	166	15
	Percent Success	75	10	56	17	68	-	74	91	5
1981	No. Hunters	18,973	13,262	153,710	88,153	336	-	508	180	384
	Harvest	14,954	1,450	88,797	12,868	208	-	408	164	14
	Percent Success	79	11	58	15	61.9	-	80	91	4

## ARCHERY HUNTING, 1968 - 1981

Year	Deer		Elk		Antelope	
	Hunters	Harvest	Hunters	Harvest	Hunters	Harvest
1968	1988	275	1021	35	106	0
1969	1738	259	934	58	97	0
1970	3438	440	1780	29	215	34
1971	4066	593	2208	57	235	7
1972	4794	511	2966	77	426	23
1973	7162	712	4927	112	489	22
1974	7965	663	5636	81	489	25
1975	7972	805	5344	175	508	85
1976	6000	485	4927	198	474	60
1977	7143	825	6338	269	498	90
1978	7849	865	7238	354	347	50
1979	12,096	850	7265	363	240	7
1980	15,081	1398	9060	444	366	34
1981	14,725	1512	9263	408	470	106

Parks Division

The Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks is mandated by law to conserve Montana's scenic historic, archaeological, scientific, and recreational resources for the use and enjoyment of the people. The Parks Division's operation of state parks, recreational areas, monuments, fishing access sites, and recreational waterways, roads, and trails fulfills that responsibility. To a degree, management for conservation and use are contradictory goals neither of which may be allowed to predominate within the system. There is little point in conserving park resources if they cannot be used and enjoyed by people, but use cannot be allowed to destroy the very thing being conserved either. Management such as land acquisition, capital construction, law enforcement, interpretation, the provision of information, operations, general maintenance, and coordination with other agencies must be carefully balanced to



produce the end product -- resources of value to present and future generations.

During Fiscal Year 1982, development at 11 Park System sites was completed. Additions to two state parks and two fishing access sites, as well as seven new fishing access sites and three new state recreation areas, were acquired totalling 970 acres. This includes an additional 286 acre portion of Wild Horse Island at Flathead Lake. Total park system visitation during the year topped 3.5 million.

The 1981 Legislature appropriated \$750,000 from the state's Coal Tax revenues to purchase three properties: Spring Meadow Lake near Helena, Doeden's Island near Miles City, and the Engle Ranch near Glendive. Unfortunately, negotiations failed during the year to arrive at an agreeable price for the Engle Ranch and its purchase did not materialize. Doeden's Island was purchased, however, and Spring Meadow Lake attracted thousands of vistors during its first summer in state ownership despite the lack of any development. Applications for additional Coal Tax parks are now being solicited for the 1983 Legislature.

As a result of the Big Horn River being restored to state ownership, the Parks Division is again operating three fishing access sites south of Hardin.

A display of the interesting aspects of the Lewis and Clark Caverns was set up in the Helena headquarters building during the summer. To further build on visual communication with the public, a travelling display series is being prepared to circulate around the state's seven regional offices. A slide series depicting Bannack State Park was prepared for public showings by Region 3.

River floating is becoming ever more popular. To be of service to the recreating public, river guides (maps) of portions of three popular float rivers were revised or assembled for the first time...the Blackfoot River, the middle Missouri, and the Smith River.

## CENTRALIZED SERVICES DIVISION

The Centralized Services Division is an administrative and service unit. It provides supervision over cashiering, budgeting, accounting, property, purchasing, payment of bills, payroll, personnel, word processing, accounts receivable, vehicle mileage and fuel use reporting, license consignments, sale of nonresident big game licenses, drawing for special hunting licenses and permits, and supportive services such as a warehouse and shop. Purchase of vehicles and warehouse inventory for use by field personnel is provided by centralized services.

Each year the Special License Division conducts drawings to determine who will receive special big game licenses and permits. There is always a great deal of interest and anticipation associated with these drawings. The following chart shows numbers of applications for various licenses and permits and an applicants overall chance of drawing a license or permit.

Actual chances of being successful in drawings depends upon the number of licenses or permits to be issued in a district and the number of applications. Accordingly, applicants have less chances to draw in popular districts.

	NUMBER OF APPLICANTS AND CHANCES OF DRAWING LICENSES OR PERMITS											
	1977	%	1978	%	1979	%	1980	%	1981	%	1982	%
Moose	16,520	.04	19,349	.03	18,320	.03	19,325	.03	17,447	.03	18,945	.03
Sheep (limited districts)							6,734	.03	5,982	.03	6,580	.04
Goat	5,023	.10	6,019	.08	6,216	.07	6,606	.06	5,636	.06	6,307	.05
Antelope	35,775	.67	39,592	.52	37,542	.43	35,360	.51	36,579	.58	43,588	.60
Special Elk	28,303	.21	36,809	.25	36,064	.25	40,995	.28	50,135	.25	64,775	.21
Special Deer	4,908	.36	5,961	.60	6,750	.50	4,883	.58	6,752	.68	7,679	.48
Deer "B"							6,645	.78	12,237	.77	21,007	.33
Deer "A:									423	.93	1,186	.94



## Enforcement Division



The division goal is to achieve an acceptable level of compliance to laws and regulations. This includes enforcing the laws of this state and the rules of the department with reference to the protection, preservation of game and furbearing animals, fish, and game birds and enforcing laws and regulations relative to department owned lands or waters, boat safety, hunter safety, and snowmobile safety.

Other duties include administration of fish ponds, outfitters, trappers, falconers, taxidermists, fur dealers, zoos, shooting preserves and approximately 400 license agents, administers safety education programs investigates wildlife damage reports and provides assistance to landowners in alleviating damage from wildlife.

Enforcement programs were designed to achieve an optimum number of sportsman-landowner contacts. Preplanning and modification



of work plans resulted in a significant increase in creel and game bag checks, and number of citations issued, all with decreased mileage from previous years.

The division initiated a saturation patrol concept in problem areas. High visibility and PR is associated with this program.

Development of a rewards program was begun similar to other states whereby citizens could receive a reward for reporting fish and game violations that lead to an arrest.

Programs for upgrading warden performance and standards were continued. A 5-day law enforcement seminar for all enforcement personnel was conducted in March.

Since the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks first offered hunter safety courses in 1958, over 177,000 young people and numerous adults have been certified as safe hunters.

Over the years, the course has evolved from strictly hunter safety to one that includes many aspects of the outdoors. Survival, first aid, game management and game identification are just a few of the subjects covered in our hunter education course.

Of the approximately 650 certified hunter safety instructors, 54 are chief instructors responsible for supervising and coordinating the program in their counties.





Two hundred copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of \$.50 per copy for a total cost of \$100.00, which includes \$1.00 for printing and \$0 for distribution.